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Ford, Dulles Back Warren Commission

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By Robert J. Donovan
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The first public defense of the Warren Commission report by members of the seven-man Commission itself was made yesterday in separate statements by Rep. Gerald R. Ford (R-Mich.) and Allen Dulles, former Director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

The two Commission members maintained that critics of the Warren Commission report have produced no new evidence to cast doubt on the report's conclusion that Lee Harvey Oswald was the sole assassin of President John F. Kennedy.

Fort charged that the voluminous challenges to the report were "triggered by a student's thesis and by the writings of an attorney whose services were rejected by the mother of Lee Harvey Oswald at the time of the Warren Commission hearings."

Commenting on this statement, Dulles said:

"I am in complete agreement with Congressman Gerald Ford that no new information has been produced by any of the critics of the Warren Commission report which could reasonably cast any doubts upon the findings or conclusions of that report."

Various members of the Commission have been boiling with indignation at the critics and dismayed at the doubts that have been planted in the public mind by critical books and articles.

Some of the members at least were badly jolted by the findings of the Louis Harris poll, published last Monday, that by a ratio of 3-to-2 the American people reject the finding of the report that Oswald was the lone assassin. Harris reported that the people have deep and abiding doubts about the official explanation of the assassination in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963.